

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please revise paragraphs 30 and 237 in the specification as follows:

A, [0030] Solid form nuclear augmentation materials may be in the form of geometric shapes such as cubes, spheroids, disc-like components, ellipsoid, rhombohedral, cylindrical, or amorphous. The solid material may be in powder form, and may be selected from the group consisting of titanium, stainless steel, nitinol, cobalt, chrome, resorbable materials, polyurethane, polyester, PEEK, PET, FEP, PTFE, ePTFE, PMMA, nylon, carbon fiber, ~~Delrin~~ DELIRIN (acetal), polyvinyl alcohol gels, polyglycolic acid, polyethylene glycol, silicone gel, silicone rubber, vulcanized rubber, gas-filled vesicles, bone, hydroxy apatite, collagen such as cross-linked collagen, muscle tissue, fat, cellulose, keratin, cartilage, protein polymers, transplanted nucleus pulposus, bioengineered nucleus pulposus, transplanted anulus fibrosis, and bioengineered anulus fibrosis. Structures may also be utilized, such as inflatable balloons or other inflatable containers, and spring-biased structures.

A2 [0237] Solid or gel nuclear augmentation materials 7 used in various embodiments of the current invention include single piece or multiple pieces. The solid materials 7 may be cube-like, spheroid, disc-like, ellipsoid, rhombohedral, cylindrical, or amorphous in shape. These materials 7 may be in woven or non-woven form. Other forms of solids including minute particles or even powder can be considered when used in combination with the barrier device. Candidate materials 7 include, but are not limited to: metals, such as titanium, stainless steels, nitinol, cobalt chrome; resorbable or non-resorbing synthetic polymers, such as polyurethane, polyester, PEEK, PET, FEP, PTFE, ePTFE, Teflon, PMMA, nylon, carbon fiber, ~~Delrin~~ DELIRIN (acetal), polyvinyl alcohol gels, polyglycolic acid, polyethylene glycol; silicon gel or rubber, vulcanized rubber or other elastomer; gas filled vesicles, biologic materials such as morselized or block bone, hydroxy apatite, cross-linked collagen, muscle tissue, fat, cellulose, keratin, cartilage, protein polymers, transplanted or bioengineered nucleus pulposus or anulus fibrosus; or various pharmacologically active agents in solid form. The solid or gel augmentation materials 7 may be rigid, wholly or partially flexible, elastic or viscoelastic in nature. The augmentation device or material 7 may be hydrophilic or hydrophobic. Hydrophilic

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materials, mimicking the physiology of the nucleus, may be delivered into the disc in a hydrated or dehydrated state. Biologic materials may be autologous, allograft, xenograft, or bioengineered.
